

REMARKS

Claims 1-39 are pending in the present application. Claims 21, 25, 26, 37, and 39 have been amended to correct typographic errors, to respond to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103, and/or to further clarify the subject matter recited therein. No new matter is added. In view of the amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of this case is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 11-13, 16-18, 21-29, 32-34, and 37-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,052,780 to Glover (hereinafter Glover). Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Examiner asserts that Glover discloses deleting means for deleting a decrypted protective object after the decrypted protective object has been linked with another object, as substantially recited in independent claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 21, 23-28, 37, and 39. However, the Office Action cites a section of Glover in support of this rejection that apparently only discloses a phantom directory of encrypted or compressed data that uses a virtual device driver to decrypt or decompress the data at the request of the operating system. The cited section also apparently discloses unloading and deleting a phantom application after completing processing. The section of Glover states in its entirety:

After the loaded virtual device driver 52 receives all communications from the unwrap procedure, it opens the original application file for read only access in step 82. The unwrap procedure then makes a call to the operating system in step 84 to execute the file in the phantom directory for which the name was transmitted to the loaded virtual device driver. One function of the loaded virtual device driver 52 is to trap all calls from the operating system to access files in step 86. Any calls made by the operating system to access files in the phantom directory are processed by the virtual device driver, whereas calls to access files in other directories are allowed to proceed to their original destination. In response to each call from the operating system, the

virtual device driver obtains the bytes of data requested by the operating system from the original computer program file in step 88. These bytes of data are then decrypted or decompressed in step 90 and returned to the operating system. ***When processing is complete, the phantom application is unloaded from the operating system in step 92, and may be deleted from the memory.***

(Glover; col. 10, lines 28-47; emphasis added). However, there is no disclosure or suggestion in

Glover of deleting a decrypted protected object ***after the decrypted protective object has been linked with another object***. The Examiner apparently asserts that the phantom application of Glover discloses the decrypted protective object of the present invention, since the phantom application is the only element which is apparently deleted in the cited section of Glover.

However, there is no discussion in the remaining cited section of Glover indicating that the phantom application is linked with another object, or that it is decrypted. Therefore, since Glover does not disclose or suggest these features, Glover does not anticipate the claims of the present invention.

Additionally, Glover does not disclose or suggest storage means for storing thereinto an encrypted protective ***object including a procedure capable of terminating a process operation due to invalidity of a protect code contained in an executable module***, as substantially recited in independent claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 21, 23-28, 37, and 39. The Examiner asserts that the digital information generating object according to Glover discloses this feature. The Examiner cites to a section of Glover that states:

The present invention involves storing encrypted digital information, such an [sic] audio, video, text or an executable computer program, on a computer readable medium such that it can be copied easily for back-up purposes and transferred easily for distribution, but also such that it cannot be copied readily in decrypted form during use. In particular, the digital information is ***stored as a computer program that decrypts itself while it is used to provide the digital information***, e.g., to provide executable operation code to the operating system of a computer, ***as the digital information is needed.***

(Glover; col. 8, lines 51-61; emphasis added). Therefore, Glover apparently discloses a method that stores decrypted digital information which is decrypted *as needed*. However, Glover does disclose or suggest an object which contains *a procedure for verifying invalidity of the codes* and *terminates a process operation when there is invalidity detected* in the protect codes contained in an executable module.

Since Glover does not identically disclose, or even suggest, all of the features of independent claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 21, 23-28, 37, and 39, Glover does not anticipate these claims.

Claims 3, 6-8, 13, 16-18, 22, 29, 32-34, and 38 depend from one of independent claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 21, 27, 28, and 37, and therefore these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as their base claims are allowable.

Claims 4, 5, 14, 15, 30, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glover in view of United States Patent No. 6,067,626 to Watanabe (hereinafter Watanabe). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claims 4, 5, 14, 15, 30, and 31 depend from one of independent claims 2, 12, and 28, and therefore these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as their base claims are allowable.

Claims 9, 10, 19, 20, 35, and 36 appear to be rejected based on the combination of Glover and Watanabe, though the basis of the rejection is not described with specificity. Applicants therefore respectfully request clarification of this rejection in the next Office communication to the Applicants.

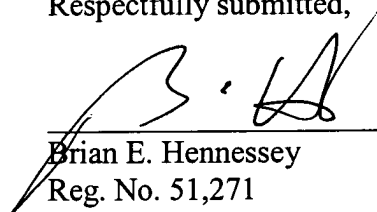
Nonetheless, despite the Office Action's ambiguity, claims 9, 10, 19, 20, 35, and 36 depend from one of independent claims 2, 12, and 28, and therefore these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as their base claims are allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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